

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNWFC, ECOSOC

SUBJ: INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING

OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL- FEBRUARY 24-25

1. FIRST SESSION OF MEETING CHAIRED BY AMB. AKHUND (PAKISTAN)
AS PRESIDENT OF ECOSOC. AFTER BRIEF OPENING STATEMENT, AND
WITHOUT OBJECTION, CHAIR GIVEN TO AMB. ABDEL MEGUID (EGYPT)
AS REPRESENTATIVE OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL SECRETARYAGENERAL MARIE.

2. COUNCIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HANNAH OPENED SESSION WITH
PROGRESS REPORT WHICH DELINEATED THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY
VARIOUS LEGISLATIVE BODIES (FAO COUNCIL, ECOSOC, 29TH GA, ETC.)
AND UN SECRETARIAT IN IMPLEMENTATION OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL
RECOMMENDATIONS. IT WAS PROPOSED THAT FIRST MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL BE CONVENED JUNE 24-25, PRECEDED BY TWO DAYS OF MEETINGS
AT THE DEPUTY MINISTERIAL LEVEL.

3. THE CHAIRMAN PROPOSED THAT THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL UTILIZE
RULES OF THE GA UNTIL IT HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPILE, PROPOSE
AND ADOPT ITS OWN RULES. AFTER SOME BRIEF DISCUSSIONS, THIS
PROPOSAL ACCEPTED BY INFORMAL GROUP.

4. THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING THEN FOCUSED UPON THE DRAFT

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA CONTAINED IN CONFERENCE ROOM PAPER NO. 1.
IN CONSIDERATION OF ITEM 5, ENTITLED "PROGRESS REPORT ON THE

IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GA AND THE
WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE, " INDIA ARGENTINA AND MEXICO PROPOSED
THAT THE LANGUAGE "PARTICULARLY IN IMPLEMENTATION OF
RESOLUTION 19(TRADE MATTERS)" BE ADOPTED. THE U.S. IMMEDIATELY
OBJECTED STRENUOUSLY TO THIS SKEWING OF THE PROGRESS REPORT,
HEAVILY EMPHASIZING THAT WHILE THE QUESTION OF GLOBAL FOOD
SUFFICIENCY INEVITABLY RAISED SOME TRADE ISSUES, IT IS NOT
DESIRABLE TO CONVERT COUNCIL INTO A TRADE NEGOTIATING GROUP.
STRONG SUPPORT RECEIVED FROM SWEDEN AND UK.

5. THIS ISSUE CARRIED OVER TO AFTERNOON SESSION WHERE, AFTER
CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION, THE US REP PROPOSED THAT THE AMENDMENT
"IN IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 19" BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE
"AND RESOLUTION 22." NET EFFECT OF THIS WAS TO INVITE THE
COUNCIL TO GIVEN PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO ALL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION
PROCESSES AS OPPOSED TO THE TRADE ASPECTS. NO OTHER SUBSTANTIVE
MODIFICATIONS MADE ON DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA WITH RESULT THAT
INFORMAL GROUP ACCEPTED HANNAH'S PROPOSALS AD REFERENDUM. THE
INFORMAL GROUP ROSE AT 6:00 P.M.
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